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RECENT LEGAL LITERATURE

A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF NATURALIZATION OF THE UNITED STATES. By Frederick Van Dyne, LL.M., American Consul, formerly Assistant Solicitor of the United States, Author of "Citizenship of the United States." Washington: Frederick Van Dyne, 1907, pp. xviii, 528.

It will be remembered that in 1906 congress established in the Department of Commerce and Labor a "Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization," or more properly, extended the old Bureau of Immigration to embrace both in title and authority the subject of "Naturalization" as well as "Immigration."

The author has taken advantage of this important recent legislation to prepare a text comprehensive enough to embrace the whole body of law in this country on this subject, including the statute law and its judicial and executive interpretation.

This work is in a sense supplementary to the author's work on "Citizenship in the United States," which filled most admirably the need for which it was prepared, and which to some extent discussed the subject of naturalization as it stood in the old law. It will supply a real need since nowhere else in a single treatise has there been anything like an exhaustive treatment of this subject.

It is most astonishing, in the light of this new legislation, that we have so long submitted to the careless administration of a body of very loose legislation for the making of citizens out of aliens. This work then is most timely in the assistance it will afford in the execution of the new law.

The first two hundred pages are given up to the subject of naturalization through the taking out of formal papers. This treatment is followed successively by chapters on Naturalization through the Parent, through Marriage, and Collective Naturalization, including Naturalization by Conquest, by Treaty, by Special Act of Congress, and by Admission of Territory to Statehood. Following, in Chapters V and VI, are discussions of the Law of Expatriation and Passports, and the final chapter is given to a presentation of the attitude of foreign governments toward their subjects who have been naturalized in this country.

In an appendix are collected the Acts of Congress bearing upon the subjects discussed: Naturalization Conventions and Treaties with Various Countries, Executive Orders to Diplomatic Officers, and a list of the courts of the country authorized to issue naturalization papers.

The book is comprehensive, well arranged and reasonably accurate. Absolute accuracy is impossible of attainment in work of this character. It may be noticed that Michigan is omitted from the list of states allowing aliens who have declared their intention to become citizens to vote, though she has for many years had such a provision in her constitution.

There was a distinct need for a work of this character, and it has been well met.

V. H. L.